

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **amend** claims 1, 4-9, 12-18, 21-23, 26-32, and 35-38 as follows. Please **cancel** claims 2, 3, 10, 11, 19, 20, 24, 25, 33, and 34 without prejudice and/or disclaimer.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

reserving resources from a prepayment system for prepaid data services, the prepaid data services being divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria in a network, wherein an initial data delivery limit is set for each service group based on the resources and information about the charging criteria; and

sending a message containing information about the initial data delivery limits from ~~the~~ a rating device to a measuring device, wherein a proportional data delivery ~~limits are~~ limit is allocated for each service group individually, and the proportional data delivery limit for each service group is defined as a proportion of the initial data delivery limit for the respective service group, and wherein remaining resources to the service groups are reallocated based on a pricing weights-weight of each of the service groups, each pricing weight being defined for the respective service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group, to obtain a new proportional data delivery ~~limits-limit~~ for each service group individually, the new proportional data delivery limits being for use in delivery of data after a service group has exceeded its proportional data delivery limit.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising receiving a report is sent from the measuring device to~~at the rating device only after all of the reserved resources are used.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, ~~comprising wherein~~ the initial data delivery limit is defined as a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

6. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising
a prepayment system hosting prepaid resources;
a rating device configured to ~~obtain~~receive information of the prepaid resources and of charging criteria of service groups and to set initial data delivery limits for the service groups based on the ~~obtained~~received information; and
a ~~meter-measuring device~~ configured to allocate a proportional data delivery limits limit for each service group individually, wherein each proportional data delivery limit is defined as a proportion of the initial data delivery limit for the respective service group, to measure use of each of the service groups, and to reallocate remaining free resources to the service groups based on a pricing weights-weight of each of the service groups, each

pricing weight being defined for the respective service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group,
to obtain a new proportional data delivery limits-limit for each service group individually
for delivery of data when a one of the service groupgroups exceeds its proportional data
delivery limit.

7. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising

- at least one data communication network;
- a prepayment system hosting prepaid resources;
- a rating device configured to ~~obtain~~ receive information of the prepaid resources and of charging criteria of service groups and to set an initial data delivery limits for each of the service groups based on the ~~obtained~~ received information; and
- a ~~meter-measuring device~~ configured to allocate a proportional data delivery limits-limit for each service group individually, wherein each proportional data delivery limit is defined as a proportion of the initial data delivery limit of the respective service group, to measure use of each of the service groups, and to reallocate remaining free resources to the service groups, and wherein the remaining free resources are reallocated based on a pricing weights of each of the service groups, the pricing weight being defined for each service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group, to obtain a new

proportional data delivery ~~limits~~ limit for each service group individually for delivery of data when a one of the service group~~groups~~ exceeds its proportional data delivery limit.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The system in accordance with claim 7, wherein the at least one data communication network comprises a packet core communication network for communication of data between users and the ~~meter~~ measuring device and a public data network for communication of data between the ~~meter~~ measuring device and providers of the prepaid services.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

~~a reserver~~ a rating device configured to:

reserve resources from a prepayment system for prepaid data services, the prepaid data services being divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria in a network;

~~a setter configured to set, via a rating device,~~ an initial data delivery limit for each service group based on the resources and information about the charging criteria; and

~~a transmitter configured to send a message containing information about the initial data delivery limits from the rating device to a~~ meter measuring device; and an allocator, configured to

a measuring device configured to:

allocate, in the ~~meter~~measuring device, a proportional data delivery limits
limit for each service group individually as a proportion of the initial data delivery limit
for the respective service group; ~~and~~

define, in the measuring device, a pricing weight for each service group as a
proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery
limit of the respective service group;

~~a reallocator configured to~~ reallocate, in the ~~meter~~measuring device,
remaining resources to the service groups based on a pricing weights-weight of each of
the service groups to obtain a new proportional data delivery limits-limit for each service
group individually, the new proportional data delivery limits being for use in delivery of
data after a one of the service groupgroups has exceeded its proportional data delivery
limit.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the
~~transmitter-measuring device~~ is further configured to send a report ~~from the meter to the~~
rating device only after all of the reserved resources are used.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 9, ~~further comprising a definer wherein the measuring device is further configured to define the~~ initial data delivery limit as a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A device~~An apparatus, comprising:
~~a reserver~~a rating device configured to:
reserve resources from a prepayment system ~~for prepaid data services~~
~~divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria;~~
~~a processor configured to obtain~~receive information of ~~prepaid resources~~
~~reserved from a prepayment system for prepaid data services divided into at least two~~
~~service groups of different charging criteria and of charging criteria of at least two service~~
~~groups of prepaid data services, the charging criteria for each service group being~~
~~different; and to~~
set an initial data delivery ~~limits~~limit for the ~~each~~ service ~~groups~~group
based on the ~~obtained~~received information and the reserved resources; and
~~a transmitter configured to send a message containing information about the~~
initial data deliver limits to a measuring device; to enable a proportional data delivery
limit to be defined for each service group as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit
for the service group and to enable remaining free resources to be reallocated to the

service groups based on a pricing weight of each of the data service groups, wherein the pricing weight for each data service group is defined as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the respective data service group.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a ~~processor-measuring device~~ configured to:

~~allocate~~ define and allocate a proportional data delivery limits-limit for each of at least two data service groups of different charging criteria as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the data service group; ~~and~~

~~a meter configured to measure use of each of the~~ data service groups;

define a pricing weight for each data service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the respective data service group; and

~~and to reallocate~~ remaining free resources to the service groups based on the pricing weights of the service groups to obtain new proportional data delivery limits for each data service group individually for delivery of data when a one of the data service groupgroups exceeds its proportional data delivery limit.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A device~~ The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein a proportional data delivery limit is defined for each service group as a proportion of the initial data delivery limit.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A device~~ The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein a pricing weight is defined for each service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A device~~ The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the initial data delivery limit comprises a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein, only after all of the reserved resources are used, a report is sent from the apparatus to a rating device configured to obtain information of the prepaid resources and of the charging criteria of service groups and to set the initial data delivery limits for the service groups based on the obtained information.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 15, comprising wherein the initial data delivery limit is defined as a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

23. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
~~allocating, in a measuring device, defining and allocating a proportional data delivery limits-limit~~ for each of at least two data service groups of different charging criteria as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the service group;
~~measuring, in the measuring device, use of each of the service groups;~~
defining a price weight for each service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group; and
~~reallocating, in the measuring device, remaining free resources to the service groups based on the pricing weights of each of the service groups_-to obtain a new proportional data delivery limits-limit~~ for each service group individually for delivery of data when a one of the service groupgroups exceeds its proportional data delivery limit.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim ~~25~~23, ~~wherein~~
further comprising sending a report is sent to a rating device only after all of the reserved

resources are used, wherein the rating device is configured to obtain information of the prepaid resources and of the charging criteria of the service groups and to set the initial data delivery limits for the service groups based on the obtained information.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 26, ~~comprising~~ wherein the initial data delivery limit is defined as a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

28. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising
reserving, in the rating device, resources from a prepayment system ~~for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria;~~
~~obtaining~~ receiving, in the rating device, information of ~~prepaid resources reserved from a prepayment system for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria and of charging criteria of service groups of prepaid data services, the charging criteria for each service group being different; and to~~
setting an initial data delivery limits for ~~the~~ each of the service groups based on the ~~obtained~~ received information and the reserved resources; and
sending, in the rating device, a message containing information about each of the initial data deliver limits to a measuring device to enable a proportional data delivery limit to be defined for each service group as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit

for the service group and to enable remaining free resources to be reallocated to the service groups based on a pricing weight of each of the data service groups, wherein the pricing weight for each data service group is defined as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the respective data service group.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 28, wherein the initial data delivery limit comprises a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
reserving means for reserving resources from a prepayment system ~~for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria;~~
processing means for ~~obtaining~~ receiving information of ~~prepaid resources reserved from a prepayment system for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria and of charging criteria of service groups of prepaid data services,~~ the charging criteria for each service group being different, and ~~to set~~ for setting an initial data delivery limits for each of the service groups based on the ~~obtained~~ received information and the reserved resources; and

transmitting means for sending a message containing information about each of the initial data deliver limits to a measuring device to enable a proportional data delivery limit to be defined for each service group as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the service group and to enable remaining free resources to be reallocated to the service groups based on a pricing weight of each of the data service groups, wherein the pricing weight for each data service group is defined as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the respective data service group.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 30, comprising wherein the initial data delivery limit is defined as a volume equivalent to a same amount of money for each service group.

32. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
processor means for defining and allocating a proportional data delivery limits limit for each of at least two data service groups of different charging criteria as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the service group, and for defining a price weight for each service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group;-and

~~metering-measuring~~ means for measuring use of each of the service groups, ~~and to~~
wherein the processing means is further for reallocate-reallocating remaining free
resources to the service groups based on a pricing weights-weight of the each of the
service groups, to obtain a new proportional data delivery limits-limit for each service
group individually for delivery of data when a one of the service groupgroups exceeds its
proportional data delivery limit.

33-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) ~~An-The~~ apparatus according to claim 32, ~~wherein~~
further comprising sending means for sending a report ~~is sent~~ from the measuring device
to the rating device after substantially all of the reserved resources are used.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~An-The~~ apparatus according to claim 32, ~~comprising~~
wherein the initial data delivery limit is defined as a volume equivalent to a same amount
of money for each service group.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable
medium configured to control a processor to perform:

~~allocating~~ defining and allocating a proportional data delivery limits-limit for each of at least two data service groups of different charging criteria as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the service group;

measuring use of each of the service groups;

defining a price weight for each service group as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery limits to the initial data delivery limit of the service group; and

reallocating remaining free resources to the service groups based on the pricing weights-weight of each of the service groups to obtain a new proportional data delivery limits-limit for each service group individually for delivery of data when a one of the service group-groups exceeds its proportional data delivery limit.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium configured to control a processor to perform:

reserving resources from a prepayment system ~~for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria~~;

~~obtaining~~ receiving information of prepaid resources reserved from a prepayment system ~~for prepaid data services divided into at least two service groups of different charging criteria and of charging criteria of service groups of prepaid data services, the charging criteria for each service group being different~~;

~~and to setting an initial data delivery limits-limit for the each of the service groups~~
based on the ~~obtained-received~~ information and the reserved resources; and

sending a message containing information about each of the initial data deliver
limits to a measuring device to enable a proportional data delivery limit to be defined for
each service group as a proportion of an initial data delivery limit for the service group
and to enable remaining free resources to be reallocated to the service groups based on a
pricing weight of each of the data service groups, wherein the pricing weight for each
data service group is defined as a proportion of a sum of the proportional data delivery
limits to the initial data delivery limit of the respective data service group.